

REMARKS:

Claims 26-33 and 40 have been allowed. The Office Action indicates that claims 7-10, 15-21, 36-37, 43, and 44 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 7-10, 15-21, 36-37, 43, and 44 are hereby so rewritten and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-6, 11-14, 22-25, 38-39, and 41-42 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,945,855 (“Momtaz”) in view of US Patent App. Pub. No. 2002/0027457 (“Chang”). In response, claims 1, 11-12, 25, 38, 39, and 41 are canceled, and claims 2-6, 13-14, 22-24, and 42 are amended. Applicants respectfully contend that each of claims 2-6, 13-14, 22-24, and 42, as amended, depends from an allowable claim and is thus in condition for allowance.

Claims 34 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,604,775 (“Saitoh”). In response, claim 34 is canceled, and claim 35 is amended to depend from amended claim 36. Thus, Applicants respectfully contend that claim 35 as amended is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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